

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)

<https://www.drdo.gov.in>

I. Introduction

DRDO is dedicatedly engaged in the formulation and execution of programmes of scientific research, design and development, testing and evaluation leading to induction of state-of-art weapons and equipment which would compete and compare favorably with its contemporary systems available elsewhere in the world. It consists of a chain of laboratories/establishments situated all over the country, pursuing assigned scientific goals with delegated powers under the policy direction provided by the headquarters in New Delhi. DRDO also supports a substantial amount of extramural research in academic institutions and other laboratories on defence related problems through various grants -in-aid schemes and other sponsored projects.

II. Name of scheme(s)

1. Extramural Research Scheme

- Research sponsored in academic institutions under the extramural research (ER) scheme focuses on research on phenomena or observations that are not understood, and that lack of understanding is recognized as an obstacle to scientific or technological progress in the broad topic area of relevance to military R&D. The knowledge base so generated is embodied in high-quality technical manpower and in the new understanding, techniques and design-tools developed through the basic research funded. Such new knowledge can also provide pathways to significant advances in the mission-effectiveness of traditional military roles.
- Collaterally with the expanded knowledge-base created, a primary end-result of the research that is funded under the ER program is a networked group of qualified people whose expertise resulting from the research can be drawn upon to build an exploitable area of new technology that has potential military applicability.
- The ER scheme also supports the instrumentality of Memoranda of Collaboration (MoC) between DRDO Laboratories & Establishments and academia. These MoC invariably involve more than one DRDO establishment and cover explorations and investigations on a range of topics within a broad subject arena that generically cross-link the research activities of the collaborating Laboratories & Establishments and the research-disciplines of the selected collaborating academic institution. Such institutional cross-linking is organic, not episodic, and is made operational in an MoC through a management structure which includes in its standing arrangements representation of directors of the collaborating DRDO institutions.

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